

snow, we're good at it, President, you know. And we——

President Bush. You're good on the ice, too. [*Laughter*]

Prime Minister Chretien. We are good on the ice, too—and both men and women. [*Laughter*] And so—and we have to work on our other problems. Thank you for the statement you made on softwood lumber. I think that the defense of our values and against terrorism are extremely important for Canadians. And we have worked very well together.

For me, I should say a few words in French, with your permission.

President Bush. Please

Prime Minister Chretien. Can you translate after that? [*Laughter*]

[*At this point, Prime Minister Chretien spoke in French and then resumed speaking in English.*]

I want to tell you that we spoke about Africa, and I want to say—I said that in French—I want to say thank you for what you have announced today, about the programs that you have announced, because as you know, at Kananaskis in Canada, at the G-8, the main topic will be Africa. And we want to establish a partnership with them. They came to Genoa last June; you and our colleagues asked me to take—[*inaudible*—] at that time. And I think that the partnership, and with your contribution, is developing very well.

Next month I will be traveling in Africa for—visiting five or six countries to build a partnership but to reward good governance, human rights, to make sure that they have real democracies, and so on. And those who don't do that will have to—not to be rewarded, because they will not meet what the world wants.

So thank you again, Mr. President.

For the press, I will take questions after my dinner. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:10 p.m. in the Colonnade at the White House.

Memorandum on Designation of Bahrain as a Major Non-NATO Ally *March 14, 2002*

Presidential Determination No. 2002-10

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Designation of Bahrain as a Major Non-Nato Ally

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, by section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (the "Act"), I hereby designate the Kingdom of Bahrain as a major non-NATO ally of the United States for the purposes of the Act and the Arms Export Control Act.

You are authorized and directed to publish this determination in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 15.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2003 *March 14, 2002*

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed requests for FY 2003 budget amendments for the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Labor, Transportation, and the Treasury; the Environmental Protection Agency; and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The discretionary budget authority proposed in my FY 2003 Budget would not be increased by these requests. However, the total budgetary resources available to the Department of Transportation would increase by \$596 million.

This transmittal also contains FY 2003 budget amendments for the Legislative Branch. As a matter of comity, appropriations requests of the Legislative Branch are transmitted without change. These additional amendments would increase discretionary resources for the Legislative Branch by \$40.4 million.

The details of these requests are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 15. An original was not available for the verification of the content of this letter.

Remarks in Fayetteville, North Carolina

March 15, 2002

The President. Thank you all.

Audience members. U.S.A.! U.S.A.! U.S.A.!

The President. Thank you all very much. At ease! [*Laughter*] General McNeill, thank you very much. For a warrior, you're pretty darn articulate. Thank you all for such a warm welcome. It's great to be here in Cumberland County, North Carolina.

I'm also honored to be here with fine men and women who wear our uniform from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the world's finest fighting soldiers. For generations, Fort Bragg has stood for the best in the United States military. And now, along with those stationed at Pope Air Force Base, you're playing a crucial role, a vital role, a successful role in our defense of freedom, in our war against terror. I'm proud of your service. I thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

I want to thank General Holland, Commander in Chief, Headquarters U.S. Special Operations Command. I want to thank General Brown. I want to thank all the fine men and women of the 18th Airborne Corps, the Special Forces, and the Special Operation units. It is good to be with the fine folks of the 43d Airlift Wing.

I am honored to be traveling with members of the North Carolina congressional delegation, two of whom you've just heard from, Congressman McIntyre, Congressman Hayes. Congressman Etheridge is with us today, as is my friend Elizabeth Dole. Thank you all for coming.

One week ago this coliseum was the scene of graduation ceremonies for the latest group

of soldiers to have earned the right to wear the Green Beret. In doing so, they will join the ranks of some of the best and bravest citizens we have. The soldiers and sailors and airmen of the U.S. Special Operations Command are the best in the world, and the world is seeing how tough and how brave they are today.

Our Special Operations forces know the danger that awaits them. This is a dangerous battle that we face, a dangerous war. And I'm proud of the courage not only of the soldiers who volunteer for battle but for the loved ones who remain behind. Not only am I proud of our soldiers, I am proud of the wives and husbands and sons and daughters and moms and dads. And on behalf of a grateful nation, we thank you as well. We appreciate your courage and your sacrifice.

Two young men from the Special Forces were recently laid to rest, Chief Warrant Officer Stanley Harriman and Air Force Tech Sergeant John Chapman. I want their families to know that we pray with them, that we honor them, and they died in a just cause, for defending freedom, and they will not have died in vain. Because of such soldiers, a vicious regime has been toppled in Afghanistan, and an entire people have been liberated from oppression. Because of American soldiers and our brave allies and friends who have fought beside them, the Taliban is out of business.

At the beginning of this war, I made it very clear—as clear as a fellow from Texas could make it—either you're with us, or you're against us. And if you harbor a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, if you try to hide a terrorist, you are just as guilty as the murderers who killed innocent Americans on September the 11th. And thanks to the mighty United States military, the Taliban found out exactly what I meant.

But the world has seen we are not conquerors; we're liberators. We fight for freedom, and at the same time, we have saved a people from mass starvation. We fight for freedom, but at the same time, we're clearing away minefields, rebuilding roads, and opening up hospitals. We fight for freedom, and yet, next week schools will reopen in Afghanistan, and for the first time, many young girls